

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. Cancelled
2. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, wherein the first tool part or the element of the first tool part is an axially movable press ram or plunger, which with a first end or a tool fixed there and an opposing workpiece assembly form the working gap and with the first end can moved toward and away from the workpiece assembly, and that the hydraulic actuating device for the working stroke can be connected by a driven linkage with the plunger or ram.
3. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 2, wherein the workpiece assembly is formed by a second tool part.
4. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, wherein at least one pressure transfer element is provided for, which when the press ram is advanced, produces a force-transferring connection between the actuating element of the hydraulic actuating device and a drive surface of the ram which (surface) is at an axial distance from this actuating element.
5. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, with the closing drive also the first tool part can be moved axially between a starting position and the working position and for this purpose can move axially in an outer second tool part.

6. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, wherein a pressure transfer element or coupling can be moved between a starting position, in which the pressure transfer element is located outside of the movement space of the ram and/or of the first tool part and a working position, in which the pressure transfer element is located between the drive surface of the ram and the actuating element.
7. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 6, wherein the pressure transfer element can be moved radially to the axis of the ram between the starting position and the working position.
8. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, wherein the actuating element is a hydraulic actuating element.
9. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim \pm 23, wherein the actuating element is a pressure piston of a hydraulic cylinder.
10. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 8, the pressure piston is part of a slave cylinder actuated by a working cylinder or a working piston located there and that the working cylinder is spatially separated from the tool or the processing tong.
11. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 2, wherein the drive surface of the ram is formed by a second end of the ram facing away from the first end.

12. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed claim 2, wherein the ram can be moved axially, with its first end or with a ram section possessing this end, in a jointing channel formed in the first tool part.

13. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ± 23, wherein the first tool part forms a ring-shaped support or hold-down surface enclosing one opening of the jointing channel.

14. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ± 23, wherein a closing drive has a piston-cylinder unit between the ram and the first tool part.

15. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 13, wherein the piston-cylinder unit is a pneumatic piston-cylinder unit.

16. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 13 wherein the piston-cylinder unit is a double-acting unit.

17. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 12, wherein the piston-cylinder unit consists of a piston located on the ram the piston can be moved axially in a cylinder chamber formed in the first tool part.

18. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ± 23, wherein a closing drive has a further drive element working between the first tool part and the second tool part or a holder.

19. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 13, wherein the further drive element is a cylinder, a pneumatic cylinder or a linkage.

20. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 23, wherein a force transfer element or coupling element is a block that can be inserted in a space between the hydraulic actuating device or its actuating element and the drive surface.

21. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 23, wherein the piston of the working cylinder can be actuated by means of a motorized drive, or by means of a motor-driven spindle.

22. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ~~1~~ 23, wherein the piston of the working cylinder is actuated pneumatically.

23. A hydraulic processing tong for processing workpieces comprising

a first reciprocating tool part on a first tong arm, the first tool part can be advanced in relation to an opposing second tool part in a tool part axis for closing a work area or work gap,

a hydraulic actuating element for applying a force exerting to the first tool part or an element of the first tool part in the tool part axis,

a closing drive advancing the first tool part and means for coupling the first tool part after advancing to the hydraulic actuating element, ~~The processing tong as claimed in claim 1,~~ wherein the actuating element is moved between a starting position, in which the actuating element is located to the side of the axis of a ~~the~~ die and a working position, in which the

actuating element is located on one axis with the die.

24. (Withdrawn) The processing tong as claimed in claim 22, wherein the actuating element is moved radially to the axis of the ram or radially to the axis of the closing movement between the starting position and the working position.

25. (Previously Presented) The processing tong as claimed in claim 23, wherein the actuating element is moved in a guide or on a tong arm.

26. (Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 23, wherein the first tool part ~~a press ram or the die~~ is moved axially by means of an auxiliary drive for the closing movement.

27. (Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim 25, wherein the auxiliary drive is linked by means of a gearwheel drive with a ~~the~~ press ram or the die.

28. (Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed claim ~~±~~ 23, wherein the actuating element is an electric motor-driven or pneumatic drive.

29. (Currently Amended) The processing tong as claimed in claim ~~±~~ 23, wherein the actuating element is a toggle joint drive.

30. (New) The processing tong as claimed in claim 23, wherein the first tool part comprises a plunger or a ram.